

D313.3/4
ol. 2, no. 12

DEFENSE COUNCIL NEWS

ISSUED BY THE STATE COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

June 22, 1943



Harrisburg, Pa.

Vol. 2, No. 12



500 HOURS



1000 HOURS



2000 HOURS

Three of the six service bars authorized by OCD for award to Civilian Defense volunteers are shown above. Not shown are bars for 3000, 4000 and 5000 hours of service. A large quantity of the bars has been ordered by the State Council of Defense. Instructions will be issued to local Councils soon.

New Centers For Child Care Open

The first application for Child Care Center equipment under the recent State appropriation has been received from Meadville Council of Defense, Mrs. Benjamin Ludlow, Child Care Director of the SCD, announced.

A large Meadville residence has been taken over and is being prepared for daytime occupancy for about 50 children. Operating funds are being sought locally.

Meanwhile, several Centers were opened in the State and Governor Martin issued a statement strongly endorsing the program and pointing out that, while Councils of Defense must furnish the leadership, the entire community must give its support.

York opened two Centers, one for 60 school-age children and the other for 30 pre-school youngsters. The county and

(Continued on page 2)

Canning Kitchens Are Organized As Gardens Increase

Plans for neighborhood canning kitchens took top place in Victory Garden Committee activities this month while reports indicated that the number of gardens planted in the State will top all past records.

Neighborhood kitchens were recommended by Mrs. H. B. Eliason, SCD Victory Garden chairman, as an integral part of the garden program. Trained instructors will be furnished by the SCD to assist in each county from July 15 to Sept. 15.

On the Victory Garden "front lines," wet weather ceased to be a major problem and rabbits became in many places the No. 1 concern. However, Boy Scout trapping projects helped to reduce the menace in Allegheny County and some other areas.

Typical reports from local committees included:

Carbon County—5,077 gardens registered, including 615 new gardens and 891 enlarged. House to house canvass was conducted.

Berks County—13,200 gardens being cultivated by 11,175 gardeners in community plots, exclusive of home gardens.

Philadelphia—Gardeners who take their produce to canning centers will be "charged" four jars out of each dozen. The four jars will go to food banks and welfare groups.

Erie—Volunteers will conduct a city-wide garden census and

(Continued on page 2)

HUTCHISON URGES CO-OPERATION WITH OPA

Having given up responsibility for local OPA nominations, Councils of Defense should now exert even greater effort than before in supporting other phases of the OPA program, says Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison, SCD Director.

"We have had an open disagreement with the OPA on certain points," he declared at a conference, "but we should now turn with renewed zeal to offering all our co-operation and assistance to other phases of the OPA program with which we can agree.

"This is an opportunity to show what real wartime co-operation is. It's our war and it's our OPA. We've got to see not only that Civilian Defense succeeds but also that OPA succeeds."

Commenting on the decision to discontinue nominations, Dr. Hutchison said such nominations were a doubtful assignment for Civilian Defense in the first

place, and had been undertaken only with reluctance.

Rejected Plan

The action halting nominations was taken on June 8 after the OPA had rejected three conditions set forth by the SCD. The conditions were:

- (1) Nominations to be made without discrimination in favor of particular groups such as labor;
- (2) No "snooping" assignments and no unannounced change in duties for Civilian

(Continued on page 2)

PLAN CONFERENCES

Conferences for county and local War Service leaders in each region of the State are being planned by Mrs. Worthington Scranton, SCD Chief of War Services, following a Region 2 conference held in Harrisburg June 16.

Each meeting will be attended by both local and State leaders of the various non-protective programs, including Salvage, Victory Gardens, Volunteer Offices, Child Care, Speakers Bureaus, Consumer Interests, and Emergency Welfare.

Model Survey Is Completed

In a special three-day survey which will serve as a model for the entire State, Lehigh County Air Raid Wardens have determined that homes in that county can accommodate 25,349 evacuees in an emergency.

The wardens visited 31,266 housing units, about three-fourths of the total units in the county, and obtained affirmative replies from 10,833. Those agreeing to accept evacuees can accommodate an average of 2.34 persons each.

Wardens carried out the survey on a house-to-house basis during the weekend of May 29-31 after the purpose had been explained

to the public through local newspapers. A copy of the questionnaire was published in advance.

In a report to State Evacuation Director James A. Kell, the Lehigh County Evacuation chief, Frank J. Haberle, declared that the wardens proved to be an ideal group to make the survey, because of their detailed knowledge of the neighborhoods they serve.

Questionnaires will be sent out soon to all counties so that similar surveys can be made. The findings will be of use in re-housing refugees within a county or in handling groups from outside.

Audible All-Clear Gets First Tryout

A 15-second audible all-clear signal was tried out in a special blackout in the five-county Philadelphia area last week, and local officials described the test as satisfactory.

Permission for the experiment was granted by Major Gen. Milton A. Reckord, head of the Third Service Command, following repeated complaints from Pennsylvania and adjoining states about the inaudible all-clear.

General Reckord did not indicate whether the audible signal would be authorized elsewhere in his Command if it proved satisfactory in Philadelphia. Most SCD officials favor such a change, but the decision must be made by the Third Service Command.

Meanwhile, General Reckord announced also that future blackouts and air raid drills will be ordered over the "black boxes" of the Civil Air Raid Warning system, instead of by telephone calls from the SCD.

The last state-wide practice blackout was on Sunday, May 23. It was the State's 11th blackout.

P327

STATE COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

GOVERNOR EDWARD MARTIN
Chairman
JOHN C. BELL, JR.
Lieutenant Governor
G. HAROLD WAGNER
State Treasurer
F. CLAIR ROSS
Auditor General
WM. S. LIVENGOOD, JR.
Secretary, Internal Affairs
ROBERT M. VAIL
Adjutant General
Vice-Chairman
CHARLES H. EALY
President Pro Tem. Senate
IRA T. FISS
Speaker of the House
MRS. WORTHINGTON SCRANTON
WEBSTER NEWTON JONES
WALTER H. ANNENBERG

RALPH COOPER HUTCHISON
Executive Director
A. BOYD HAMILTON
Secretary and Deputy Director
The DEFENSE COUNCIL NEWS is published by the State Council of Defense, Capitol Building, Harrisburg, Pa. Communications should be directed to R. V. Wall, director of publicity.

STUDY IS STARTED ON BLACK MARKETS

Information on "black market" activities in Pennsylvania is being compiled by Mrs. Conway Zirkle, chairman of the SCD Consumer Committee, so that a detailed report of conditions can be made to the SCD and other agencies.

"We would like to have people report to us the nature of black market operations and the locations," said Mrs. Zirkle. "The job of our Consumer Committees will be to educate the public against patronizing such markets."

SCD Director Hutchison meanwhile invited the OPA to recommend ways in which the Councils of Defense can help promote the rationing and price control program. Proposals are being awaited.

At a meeting of her committee on May 28, Mrs. Zirkle reported that consumer reference shelves have been arranged in at least 66 public libraries and that consumer releases are given out in 533 local clubs. A Home Mechanics Course will be sponsored late this summer.

CANNING KITCHENS ARE ORGANIZED AS GARDENS INCREASE

(Continued from page 1)

award window stickers to all gardeners. Community plots now number 1,200, and all gardens are expected to total about 12,000.

Pottstown—Estimate indicates 1800 gardens. Food Fair will be held next fall.

New Bethlehem—Leaders estimate 90 per cent of the homes have gardens this year.

Milton—Prizes will be awarded for the best gardens grown by children and adults.

HUTCHISON URGES FULL COOPERATION WITH OPA

(Continued from page 1)

Defense volunteers; and (3) Ration Board members to be picked exclusively from those nominated by Defense Councils.

Dr. Hutchison made it clear that there was no objection to the nominating of labor representatives. "We do object," he said, "to the policy of singling out labor for representation and not making similar provision for other groups such as agriculture."

Council of Defense members were assured that the action in no way should prevent them from serving on Ration Boards or Price Panels if they are asked as individuals to do so.

NEW ITEMS ADDED IN SALVAGE DRIVE

Three new items — brown paper, rags, and magazines—have been added to the summer program of Salvage Committees in Pennsylvania. Magazine collections, however, are to be promoted only in nine metropolitan counties.

The need for brown paper, including bags, boxes and wrapping paper, has become critical, the SCD Advisory Salvage Committee reported, because of great quantities being used by the armed forces for paper containers. Rags too are needed for war purposes.

Reports from the Spring Scrap Collection are still incomplete, but at least nine counties exceeded their quotas. They were: Allegheny, Cambria, Elk, Forest, Lehigh, Luzerne, McKean, Montour, and Warren.

HOLD JOINT RALLY

Red Cross and Civilian Defense awards were presented at a rally in Union County sponsored jointly by the Red Cross and the CDVO. Eleven Nurses' Aides were capped.

NEW CENTERS FOR CHILD CARE OPEN

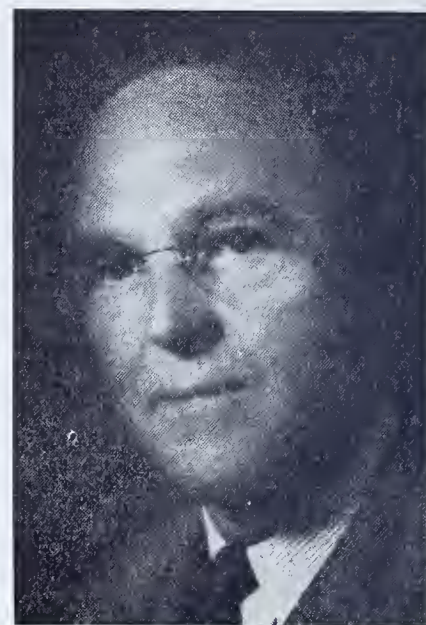
(Continued from page 1)

the city appropriated \$1500 each to operate the Centers for three months on a trial basis.

In Williamsport, two Centers are in operation and a survey is being made to determine additional need. Federal aid has been obtained. Darby has opened one Center for 30 children and is expecting Federal funds. A Center in Erie has been opened in a housing project.

Centers are being planned at Lancaster and Phoenixville, while Philadelphia, with a city appropriation of \$152,000, has opened its ninth Center out of a total of 15 planned.

Civilian Defense Leaders



Leonard G. O'Brien (left) is Chairman of Susquehanna County Council of Defense, and Charles C. Housenick (right) is Chairman in Columbia County. Mr. O'Brien is supervising principal of schools in Montrose, while Mr. Housenick conducts an automobile business and is active in Boy Scout work.

Commandos Top Fats Goal

While the state as a whole fell short of its quota, Indiana County, through the efforts of 5200 Junior Commandos, went over the top in fats collections during May with a total of 11,781 pounds. The county's quota is 11,000 pounds.

One Commando brought in 118 pounds of fats single-handed and several others have collected over 1500 pounds of metal scrap apiece. One ton of silk and nylon hose and 77,000 pounds of tin cans collected by the hustling school group was shipped during May.

In a letter of congratulations, SCD Director Hutchison told County Chairman Steele Clark that the Junior Commandos were doing "a remarkable piece of work." Good results have been reported from similar groups in Tunkhannock and elsewhere in the state.

Colley S. Baker, SCD Salvage Committee secretary, reported the state's unofficial total of fats collections for May was 622,647 pounds, against the monthly quota of 1,428,500 pounds. Only a few counties, notably Berks, have been reaching their quotas regularly.

SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

A campaign against "loose talk" is being waged by more than 100 speakers trained by the Radio, Film and Speakers Bureau of Philadelphia Council of Defense. They are addressing meetings to urge people not to reveal any information that would aid the enemy.

MEET EACH TUESDAY

Gas officers are receiving their 15 hours of training in Franklin County through a series of Tuesday evening classes at Mercersburg Academy. John J. Shank, of Waynesboro, the county's Senior Gas Officer, is in charge. Attendance at the sessions has averaged about 50.

Radio Service Used In State-wide Drill

Use of War Emergency Radio Service was resorted to by several counties to solve the communications problem which featured the state-wide Control Center drill on June 10.

Action in setting up WERS facilities in each county was recommended by the SCD in Bulletin 83C, issued May 29. The first step is to provide short-wave radio contacts for the Air Raid Warning Service and between county and local Control Centers.

Applications for WERS licenses should be submitted to the Communications Section of the SCD.

V-Home Pennants Will Be Awarded

Communities in at least four counties of Pennsylvania are expected to be flying special V-Community pennants soon proclaiming that at least 60 per cent of their homes are V-Homes.

Triangular red, white and blue pennants with the CD insignie imprinted on the letter "V" are prescribed by the OCD for award to eligible communities. The pennants are 3 by 5 feet.

York County is the first to report the completion of a full-scale V-Home campaign. The drive, carried out by block leaders under Mrs. Edythe M. Brenneman, resulted in 73 per cent coverage of the homes in York and 38 other municipalities.

In Berks County, 2600 block leaders headed by Mrs. H. C. Osman have started a campaign to make "Every Home a V-Home by Independence Day." Sixty communities are expected to qualify for pennants.

Other counties reporting V-Home campaigns are Crawford and Elk. Each community eligible for a pennant must be certified to the SCD. A limited number of pennants will be provided by the OCD, but beyond that number they must be purchased from a manufacturer.

The current V-Home drives are being carried out under simplified procedure announced in SCD Bulletin 55C. Homes no longer need be inspected by wardens.

560 BLOCK LEADERS

Swearing-in ceremonies were held in Upper Darby, Delaware County, for 560 block leaders. The group is directed by the local chief of the Citizens Service Corps.

DEPUTY NAMED

The SCD has appointed L. D. Matter, District Engineer of the State Department of Health, as Deputy State Water Supply Coordinator. The coordinator is John H. Murdoch, Jr.

BIG CONTRIBUTION

Services rendered by Civilian Defense volunteers in America have an annual "dollars and cents" value of approximately \$900,000,000, OCD Director Landis declared in a recent statement presented to Congress.

"This has not only been a contributing factor to the present high morale of the country," he said, "but has been a tremendous contribution to the total war effort."

FILMS

With the release of a new one-reel version of the film "Control Center," Councils of Defense in Pennsylvania now have a choice of eight different subjects when they borrow training films from the college distributor serving their area.

All eight films are 16 m.m. sound films. The titles are:

CONTROL CENTER: Four reels; 40 minutes. (Strictly for training).

CONTROL CENTER: One reel; 10 minutes. (General audiences).

AIR RAID WARDEN'S REPORT: 10 minutes.

AIR RAID WARDEN: 16 minutes.

FIRE BOMB: 7 minutes.

RESCUE UNIT: 20 minutes.

WHAT TO DO IN A GAS ATTACK: 10 minutes.

TARGET LIGHTS: 11 minutes. (Shows approved methods of blacking out homes).

The film on war gas is suitable both for training purposes and for general showing. C. L. Siebert, Gas Consultant for the SCD, recommended that local and county Gas Officers arrange to make full use of the film. Like other films, it should be booked through the County Council, as recommended in SCD Bulletin 59C.

Film damage has been reported in some cases. Where such damage exceeds ordinary wear and tear, the borrower will be billed by the college distributor for the cost of repairs. Only experienced projectionists should be entrusted with the showing of films.

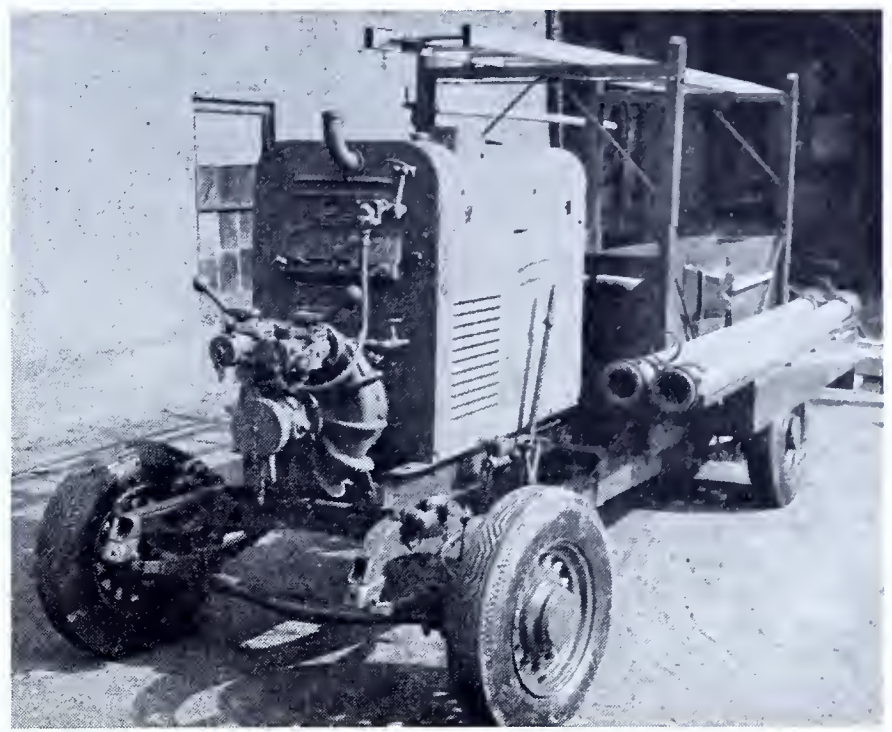
CANTEEN UNITS HELP STRANDED TRAVELERS

Civilian Defense canteen and medical units in Bloomsburg, Columbia County, went into action recently when 25 Negro farm workers were stranded there overnight due to a truck breakdown. The workers were enroute from Florida to Bridge-water, N. Y.

Canteen units set up headquarters at two local churches, served meals, and arranged billets for the night. Medical attention was given two members of the party who became ill. Some of the party also were given clothes.

ONE YEAR OF SERVICE

Six Allentown women who make up the Wednesday morning shift in Lehigh County Control Center have completed one full year of service. Mrs. E. F. Muth and Mrs. W. H. Temple had perfect attendance records.



Trailer shown above with skid pump was built by Warren Fire Department from a 1933 Dodge chassis. It can be towed by a truck or hauled by hand. New lumber, reinforced by steel, was used. Total cost: about \$110.

FFFS Chief Urges Summer Program

Several counties, including Somerset, made outstanding records in Forest Fire Fighters Service during the spring season, but much work remains to bring the Service to full strength of 15,000 members in Pennsylvania before next fall.

"I sincerely hope," said a bulletin from George H. Wirt, State FFFS Chief, "that you will take advantage of the summer season . . . to spread information with respect to the importance of your group; that those who are now enrolled will be trained; and that many new volunteers will be enrolled."

Wirt reported that forest fire losses this spring were the lowest in years, largely because of wet weather, but he warned that another danger period will start in September.

In Somerset County, credit was given to Major Leland W. Walker and his 550 FFFS members, organized in 102 squads, for extinguishing a number of small fires in early stages and thus preventing heavy losses. All of the squad members are trained and will receive further instruction this summer.

Franklin County, whose FFFS is headed by W. L. Byers, reported that 33 squads, totalling 376 members, have been organized, largely through Boy Scout troops and high schools.

ENROLLMENT GAIN

A report showing 195,855 enrolled in Civilian War Activities in Luzerne County helped to boost the state-wide Civilian Defense enrollment to a record high of 1,421,415 on June 1. It was the first War Activities report submitted by that county.

The June 1 totals showed 615,843 volunteers in the Citizens Defense Corps and 805,572 in Civilian War Activities. An over-all increase of 229,000 occurred during May.

A separate report revealed that there are 84,618 women in the Citizens Defense Corps, including 24,542 Air Raid Wardens.



Leland W. Walker (above) is Chief of FFFS in Somerset County.

Rescue Training Program Started

With interest in Rescue Squad expansion and training rising throughout the State, Charles E. Clark, SCD Fire Coordinator, prepared plans this week for furnishing expert instructors.

Meanwhile, another Defense Corps training program was projected with announcement by the OCD of a new unit—Fire Guards—whose duty will be to man pump-tank extinguishers. This group will absorb the present Fire Watcher unit.

Clark reported that many counties are organizing new Rescue Squads and some have already started training. First Aid and fire training will be given by local instructors, but outside leaders will be available to give an 18-hour special course.

Two rescue experts, R. D. Currie of **Trucksville** and J. V. Berry of **Johnstown**, have agreed to give instruction in their areas, and other men will be appointed soon.

In the program for Fire Guards, recruitment and training is planned for later this summer. Instructions for this State will be issued soon. The OCD set a preliminary goal of 1,500,000 members nationally, to be recruited in areas where pump tanks have been furnished by OCD.

HUTCHISON NAMED TO AVIATION BOARD

SCD Director Hutchison, a long-time devotee of aviation, has been appointed by Governor Martin as vice-chairman of the Pennsylvania Aeronautics Commission.

Dr. Hutchison served in U. S. Naval Aviation during World War I and he frequently travels by plane.



DuBois Council of Defense is proud of equipment pictured above. "Civilian Defense Unit" at left contains seven cots and also rescue and first aid equipment. Truck at right carries an auxiliary lighting unit. In foreground is a respirator. *

News From Local Councils

NEW SIREN: Judge W. C. Sheely, chairman of **Adams County Council of Defense**, spoke at outdoor exercises in which **Abbottstown** dedicated a new \$500 air raid siren . . . At **Canonsburg**, the School Board donated \$200 toward purchase of four sirens which will help eliminate "dead spots."

* * *

HONOR ROLL: Soldiers and equipment from **Indiantown Gap** attended the dedication of an honor roll erected by the Council of Defense of **Lavelle**, **Schuylkill County** . . . The board lists more than 100 names of local boys in service.

* * *

PLAYGROUNDS: The job of recruiting 100 volunteer supervisors for city playgrounds was taken over in **Erie** by the CDVO . . . The program is headed by A. L. Mould, recreation chairman for the Council of Defense.

* * *

TRAINING: Classes on a county-wide basis have been abandoned by C. V. Erdly, **Mifflin County CDC** training director, in favor of small sector and zone classes . . . 69 women and girls were awarded home-nursing certificates at a Council of Defense meeting in **Windber**.

* * *

BEST SOLUTION: Councils of Defense in **Paperville**, **Chester County**, and **Elizabeth**, **Allegheny County**, had the same problem—bickering and lack of support . . . Both solved their troubles in the same way, by calling meetings at which differences were threshed out and a new beginning made.

PERSONNEL: Harry C. Smith, Executive Director of **Blair County Council of Defense**, has been awarded the **Altoona Kiwanis Club** medal for outstanding service . . . Harry W. Price, Jr., who filled the same post in **Mifflin County**, has resigned to enlist in the **Seabees**.

* * *

SALVAGE: More than \$1600 has been given to the Red Cross, USO, and the schools from scrap sales in **Adams County** . . . Tin cans have accounted for \$1900 of the \$7041 which **Reading-Berks Council of Defense** has realized from sale of scrap . . . Girl Scouts in **Mt. Carmel** collected 1800 pairs of silk hose in two days.

* * *

HERE AND THERE: Control Centers in **Lehigh** and **Northampton** counties have been designated to transmit official flood warnings . . . A blood plasma bank of 360 units is being established by **Luzerne County Citizens Defense Corps** . . . Thirty gas casualty stations are being established by the **Cambria-Somerset Pharmaceutical Association**.

CDC SONG WRITTEN

A special song dedicated to the members of the U. S. Citizens Defense Corps has been written by Tom Kennedy, of **Scranton**. The song, entitled "U. S. C. Defense Corps," has been published by Kennedy, who announced that any profit from sales would be turned over to the Blood Bank of the **Lackawanna County Council of Defense**.

GAS MASKS TOTAL 100,000 IN STATE

More than 100,000 non-combatant gas masks have been received from the OCD in "priority" areas of Pennsylvania, and medical field equipment is beginning to arrive in some areas. Both items are included in the \$100,000,000 OCD equipment program.

The gas mask shipments, which will be made to some 300 communities designated by the OCD, are intended for use by wardens, auxiliary police and other CDC members who have outdoor duties. Civilians are expected to protect themselves by remaining indoors.

The medical equipment includes electric lanterns, surgeon's instruments, heat pads, and bandages.

\$17,822 Appropriated By Beaver County

Appropriations totalling \$17,822 were made to **Beaver County Council of Defense** during its first two years, according to an anniversary report issued May 31.

Largest expenditures were for the county Warning Center and Control Center, training of instructors, distribution of materials, and salaries of four staff members. Accurate records of the county's 9800 Citizens Defense Corps members are kept at the headquarters in the Courthouse at **Beaver**.

Credit for much of the Council's progress is given to an executive committee headed by County Chairman Art W. Coombs and composed of the chairmen of the 41 local Councils in the county. This group held 25 meetings during the past year.

DATES CHANGED FOR PITTSBURGH SCHOOL

Dates for the Plant Protection School in **Pittsburgh** have been changed to June 30 and July 1, but the other schools in the State will be held according to the original schedule.

In addition to the remaining schools at **Wilkes-Barre**, July 7-8, and **Erie**, July 13-14, there is a possibility that schools will be held in **Williamsport** and **Allentown**, according to Ray F. Riegelmeier, SCD Plant Protection Officer.

POLICEMAN PRAISED

A certificate of commendation signed by Edward M. Young, **Mercer County CDC** Commander, has been presented to Policeman J. R. McCurdy, of **Grove City**, in recognition of his work in organizing and training Auxiliary Police.